

Communiqué de presse - Press release

Arianespace flight VS20: CSO-1

The launch readiness review (RAL) took place in Kourou on Monday, December 17, 2018 and authorized count-down operations for flight Soyuz VS20 – CSO-1.

For its 11th and final launch of the year – and the third in 2018 with the Soyuz medium launcher – Arianespace will send the CSO-1 Earth observation satellite, intended for defense and security applications, into Sun-synchronous orbit for the French CNES (Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales) space agency and the DGA (Direction générale de l'armement) defense procurement agency on behalf of the French Ministry of Defense.

This also will be the 20th mission carried out by Soyuz since it began operating at the Guiana Space Center (CSG) in October 2011.

With this latest launch at the service of France's defense requirements, as well as for the capacity needs of several partner countries, Arianespace once again guarantees French and European autonomous access to space – a strategic priority, and a key element for sovereignty.

The liftoff will be from the Soyuz Launch Complex (ELS) in Kourou, French Guiana (South America).

Launch time



Liftoff is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 18, 2018** at exactly:

- > 11:37:14 a.m., in Washington, D.C.
- > 01:37:14 p.m., in Kourou, French Guiana
- > 16:37:14, Universal Time (UTC)
- > 05:37:14 p.m., in Paris
- > 07:37:14 p.m., in Moscou
- > 01:37:14 a.m., in Tokyo on December 19, 2018.

1 Telephotos

On this occasion a HD photos will be sent by e-mail through AFP, EPA, reuter'S, associated press, kyodo press service (via reuter's). In Europe via anp, ansa, apa, belga, dpa, efe, keystone, lusa, pressebild and in Japan via JIJI press.

Lift off of the Soyuz, [starting from H0+1 hour 30min on December 18, 2018 \(i.e. 18:07 UT on December 18, 2018\)](#) if lift off happens at the beginning of the launch window.

Important : **Crédit photo : « Service Optique CSG ».**
Copyright : « ESA/CNES/ARIANESPACE »

2 Live TV and eurovision coverage

2.1 Live TV coverage:

Arianespace gives free of charge, for TV news purposes only, the live video transmission (or part of it) of the launch starting H-20 mn.

The signal is at your disposal at EBU Geneva center and through the EUROVISION'S WORLDFEED SERVICE.

Contact EBU : worldfeed@eurovision.net – hotline +41 22 717 2790.

Claudia Hoyau
Evry, France
Tel +33 (0)1 60 87 55 11
c.hoyau@arianespace.com

Martine Studer
Kourou, French Guiana
Tel +594 594 33 38 74
m.studer@arianespace.com

Aaron Lewis
Washington, D.C., USA
Tel +1 202 628-3936
a.lewis@arianespace.com

Motoko Mori
Tokyo, Japan
Tel : +81 3 3592-2766
m.mori@arianespace.com

Vivian Quenet
Singapore
Tel : +65 6223 6426
v.quenet@arianespace.com

The video transmission is available with French and English technical commentaries.
The signal is also available in the USA. Contact: Aaron Lewis +1 (202) 628-3936.

Any requests for use must be formalized in collaboration with our press office before 4 p.m. (Paris time) on December 17, 2018. Arianespace copyright must be mentioned for each use.

The signal is available only for TV and not for video streaming on the Internet. For any use of the video streaming, please contact Arianespace Press Department (at least 3 days prior to the launch) which will indicate the conditions to create a link with the official Arianespace website (arianespace.com).

2.2 Eurovision coverage:

A short topic of the launch will be available in the EUROVISION NEWS EXCHANGE network:

Contact at the Eurovision News in Geneva: evn@eurovision.net

Thanking you in advance for taking advantage of these EVN/EUROVISION topics.

A complete registered VT program in broadcast quality will also be available in the EUROVISION WORLDLINK video on demand platform (<https://www.eurovision.net/worldlink/>) less than two hours after the end of the live VT broadcast.

3 Live on Internet

Live, high-speed, full-screen: Arianespace's video transmissions are now available on the company's responsive website and YouTube channel.

We invite you to enjoy the Soyuz launch VS20 on our live broadcasts and past programs:

- Arianespace website: <http://www.arianespace.com>
- Arianespace on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/arianespace>

No matter where you are, go online for the launch scheduled on December 18, 2018 (Universal time). The webcast will start 20 min before liftoff.

4 Arianespace press contacts

In Kourou (French Guiana)

Isabelle Veillon
Tel : +33 6 78 4 43 49

Martine STUDER
Tel + 594 694 23 09 83


in Evry (France) you can also contact our press information office:
Arianespace Information service

Isabelle PICHARDIE
Tél. : + 33 1.60.87.61.64
i.pichardie@arianespace.com



Claudia HOYAU
Head of Media & Digital Communications

 <http://twitter.com/arianespace>
 <http://twitter.com/arianespaceceo>

 <http://youtube.com/arianespace>
 <http://instagram.com/arianespace>